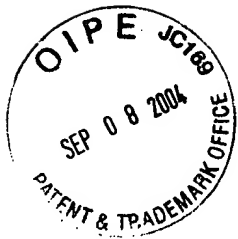


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Examining Group 1653



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner : Hope A. Robinson
Group Art Unit : 1653
Applicants : Slobodan Vukicevic et al.
Application No.: 09/828,607 Confirmation No.: 5821
Filed : April 6, 2001
For : REPAIR OF LARYNX, TRACHEA, AND OTHER
FIBROCARILAGINOUS TISSUES

New York, New York
September 8, 2004

Hon. Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION

This is in reply to the June 8, 2004 Final Office Action in the above-identified application. Applicants are filing this reply before the expiration of the shortened statutory period for reply -- September 8, 2004 -- and thus, no extension fee is due.

Application No.: 09/828,607

Reply and Amendment dated September 8, 2004

In response to Final Office Action dated June 8, 2004

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of the paper.

Remarks begin on page 11 of this paper.